

Will the medical officer's compliance

CHEADLE AND GATLEY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's
Report

FOR THE YEAR 1894.

STOCKPORT :

SWAIN and Co., Limited, General Printers, King Street East.

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To the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG, in conjunction with my father (Dr. Alfred Godson) who resigned the post of your Medical Officer of Health last October, to present the Annual Report of the Cheadle and Gatley Urban Sanitary District for the year 1894.

As it is required in the memoranda issued by the Local Government Board—as to the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health—to state and re-state facts regarding the state of the district, which have already been presented in previous Annual Reports, I accordingly do so.

The district is almost entirely an agricultural and residential one. There are a few trades carried on in it, which were fully described in the Annual Report for 1892. There was no alteration or increase in the number during the past year. They are all healthy trades, and the health of the operatives continues good. As before—*viz.*, in 1893, almost every case of infectious disease was introduced into the district from the neighbouring towns—Manchester and Stockport; and it is in that part of the district which adjoins the Borough of Stockport that the majority of cases occurred.

Hereunder will be found the area of the district, population (census 1891), and the estimated population to the middle of 1894; calculated by estimating the increase in the number of houses, and the increase in the number of births over that of the deaths.

Area of district, 5,835 acres. Population in 1891, 8,255 ; in 1894, 8,592.

The number of Births registered in 1894—202 ; In 1893—206.
Decrease—4.

The number of Deaths (excluding Institutions)—105 ; in 1893—112.
Decrease—8.

The Birth-Rate (population 7,850) per 1000 for 1894—25·7 ; for 1893
(population 7,750)—26·5

The Death-Rate (population 7,850) per 1000 for 1894—13·37 ; for 1893
(population 7,750)—14·7.

In 1894 31·4 % of the deaths were over 65 years ; in 1893 26·4 % 3
Deaths under 1 year to 1000 births registered—128·7

The number of Infectious Diseases (excluding Institutions) notified during the year was 52, as compared with 35 in 1893, and 22 in 1892. The number of cases of each disease was as follows :—

Smallpox, 1, and 1 suspected Smallpox ;	in 1893, 2.	Decrease, 1.
Scarlet Fever, 28.	„ 20.	Increase, 8.
Diphtheria, 9.	„ 3.	„ 6.
Membr Croup, 2.	„ 1.	„ 1.
Enteric Fever, 2.	„ 4	Decrease, 2.
Puerperal Fever, 2.	„ 1.	Increase, 1.
Erysipelas, 7.	„ 4.	„ 3.

At the Convalescent Hospital there were during the year four cases of Erysipelas and one case of Scarlet Fever ; in 1893 there were eight cases of Erysipelas and not any of Scarlet Fever. All these cases were immediately removed to the Monsall Fever Hospital.

No case of infectious disease was notified either from the Royal Lunatic Asylum or from the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools.

Whenever a case of infectious disease was notified, I at once visited the house, and with the medical gentleman in attendance, and with the aid of your inspector, took, as far as possible, all precautions to check its spread, and with fairly successful results, considering the means at my disposal and the lack of a hospital for infectious diseases.

SMALLPOX.

Besides the case of Smallpox which was notified, one occurred in June at Stockport, among the men employed on the Stockport Sewage outfall works in this district. I made with Dr. Porter, Medical Officer of Health for Stockport, a personal inspection of all the men employed in

Cheadle. Re-vaccination was advised. No other case has occurred. The case that was notified was contracted in the Borough of Stockport, where the patient worked, although he resided in Adswold, Cheadle. He was immediately removed to the Hyde Hospital, where he died. All the members of his family were vaccinated, and the house thoroughly disinfected. No other members of the family took the disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

There was a large increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified. The majority of cases occurred at the Stockport border of the district, and there it was due to the want of proper means of isolation, as for instance—on visiting the houses the patient was found in the same room as the other children. The disease was of a mild type, only one case having proved fatal.

DIPHTHERIA.

Most of the cases of Diphtheria were not of a serious nature; there were two fatal cases. In one of these the drainage of the house was defective, and ran in close proximity to a well which supplied it with water. The other cases seem to have arisen more from climatic causes, as most of them occurred in the very wet part of the summer.

ERYSIPELAS.

The cases of Erysipelas which were notified were mostly facial, and of idiopathic origin. The only fatal case was that of a baby a few days old.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

As regards Hospital Accommodation for Infectious disease, I repeat the remarks made in former Reports—*viz.*, that there are no arrangements for removing any case of infectious disease except Smallpox. No steps were taken by the late Local Board in the matter, but no doubt it will receive the attention of the Urban District Council. I have received a copy of the Report of the County Medical Officer of Health, as to existing Isolation Hospitals in the administrative County of Chester, and as to what further provision should, in his opinion, be made for establishing Isolation Hospitals. In it he remarks that there is reason to expect that Cheadle and Gatley may find accommodation at Monsall Hospital.

I hardly think that this expectation is likely to be realized. The Convalescent Hospital and the Asylum are connected with the Monsall Fever Hospital, to which their infectious cases are sent. It is to these cases no doubt that the County Medical Officer refers, when he says in his Report that cases are reported to have been sent to Monsall from Cheadle and Gatley. The Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools have their own sanitorium.

The following is an abstract of the Sanitary work done during the year as furnished by your Inspector. It shews that much was done in this department. The work of paving, sewerage, and lighting private streets was continued. There are still some which are in a very bad condition and require attention as soon as possible.

INSPECTOR'S ABSTRACT.

No. of Complaints received during the year...	...	...	37
No. of Houses, Premises, etc., inspected	...	...	1500
No. of Re-Inspections of Houses, Premises, etc.	...	...	600
Results of Inspection :—Orders issued for Sanitary Amend-			
	ments of Houses and Premises		30
"	" Houses, Premises, etc., Cleaned,		
	Repaired, Whitewashed, etc.		18
"	" Houses Disinfected after illness of		
	an Infectious Character	...	9
House Drains.—Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, etc....	...	...	44
"	" Houses Re-Drained and Trapped off from		
	Sewers, and Ventilated...	...	310
Privies and Waterclosets :—Repaired, etc.	...	...	21
"	" Supplied with Water	...	4
"	" New Provided	...	9
Dust Bins :—New Provided	...	...	2
"	Repaired, Covered, etc....	...	27
Water Supply :—Cisterns (new) erected	...	...	10
"	Pumpwells Cleansed, Repaired and		
	Covered	...	4
Dust Removal.—No of Communications received and			
attended to	...	...	13
Removal of Accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water,			
Animal and other Refuse	...	...	3018 loads
Animals Removed, being improperly kept	...	...	7
Bakehouse—only one in the district.			
Licensed Cowsheds	...	...	54
Slaughter-houses.	...	...	5

About $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles of the New Sewer were laid down during the year in the main roads and private streets, and all the houses abutting on these streets were connected with it. The houses directly affected by these improvements number 193. There is now only one part of the district in which the new sewer has to be constructed to complete the main drainage scheme. The outfall works are well in hand.

The Water Supply from the Stockport Waterworks is sufficient for the needs of the district. Since the last Annual Report, Dr. Porter, Medical Officer of Health for Stockport, has made a very full Report on the Water supplied by the Waterworks Co. The samples that were tested were found on the whole to be good.

Slaughter-Houses.—These are still unlicensed. I, with your Inspector, visited all of them, and found that there was an improvement in the way they were kept, but in some of them there is still room for further improvement. No new Slaughter-Houses were built.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—Regulations which apply to these were issued in December by the late Local Board. I, along with your Inspector, visited all the dairies and cowsheds. They are now being registered and supplied with the Board's Regulations, which your Inspector and I will see are strictly observed.

Recreation Grounds.—During the summer months a field was kindly lent by a gentleman for a common Recreation Ground, and it was much used and appreciated by the children. It is to be regretted that he could not, owing to its situation, continue to allow them the use of it; but I am glad to say that I have received private information that funds for a Recreation Ground are likely ere long to be partly provided by the liberality of some of the residents of the district.

Cemetery.—The same remarks as were made in the last Annual Report still apply.

Unwholesome Food.—None, as far as I know, has been exposed for sale.

Emptying of Ashpits and Removal of Refuse.—Particulars are given in the Inspector's Abstract.

Common Lodging-Houses.—There are none in the district.

New Houses.—Nineteen have been erected and inspected by the Surveyor. They are all supplied with water closets. The requirements of the bye-laws have been duly observed.

The general health of the district has been good. The death-rate for the third quarter is the lowest recorded in the district. The amount of general sickness at the latter end of the year was much below the average.

There were no epidemics either of influenza or of any other infectious disease. Although there was a serious epidemic of measles all round the district in the autumn, the district itself, as far as I know, was almost free. The whole district was inspected from time to time. Reports as to its state were made, and advice given thereon, in the Monthly Reports.

**ALFRED GODSON, M.B., late Medical
Officer of Health for Cheadle and
Gatley.**

**JOHN H. GODSON, M.B., B.C., Medical
Officer of Health.**

